

**C. Claims**

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(c), replace the original claims 1-6 with the claims 1-6 appearing on the following page.

What is claimed is:

Sub B  
1. (Original) A method in a communications system having a first terminal device and a second terminal device, said method recognizing an off-hook condition of said second terminal device at a two-wire subscriber line in a switching center, comprising the steps of:

acquiring a loop d.c. of a two-wire subscriber line with a first terminal device working in a first frequency band and comparing said acquired loop d.c. to a threshold, thus recognizing an off-hook condition of said first terminal device; and

comparing said loop d.c. to a second threshold that is higher than said first threshold by a minimally required current level in operating said first terminal device.

A  
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein one of said first terminal device and said second terminal device is an analog terminal device and the other terminal device is a digital or data terminal device.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said first threshold is approximately 10 mA.

4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein a d.c. resistance of said digital or data terminal device is determined such that ~~that~~ it corresponds to that of an analog terminal device at least at a beginning of an off-hook condition.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said d.c. resistance is 300  $\Omega$ .

6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 4, further comprising the step of: lowering said d.c. ~~resistance~~ current of said digital or data terminal device after recognition of said off-hook condition at said digital or data ~~termite~~ terminal device and a beginning of a data transmission, to approximately 5 mA with an active current source.